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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 09/341,328 07/06/1999 SATOSHI MIKAMI KINOSHITACA 4999 7590 09/10/2004 **EXAMINER** FLYNN THIEL BOUTELL & TANIS CHANNAVAJJALA, LAKSHMI SARADA 2026 RAMBLING ROAD ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER KALAMAZOO, MI 490081699 1615 DATE MAILED: 09/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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09/341,328	07/06/1999	Mikami etal.	KINOSHITACA	
			EXAMINER L. Channavay) rola	
			ART UNIT	PAPER
			1615	07062004

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Commissioner for Patents

A Supplemental Appeal Brief has been filed by appellants on 2-26-04. The Appeal Brief (dated 10-14-03) presented only one issue before the board i.e., whether the rejection of claims 12-41 are unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over US patent No. 5,496,544 and hence is proper. However, the supplemental brief is refused under 37 CFR 1.195 because the issue raised in the supplemental brief has not been presented in a properly presented appeal brief.

THURMAN K. PAGE SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600